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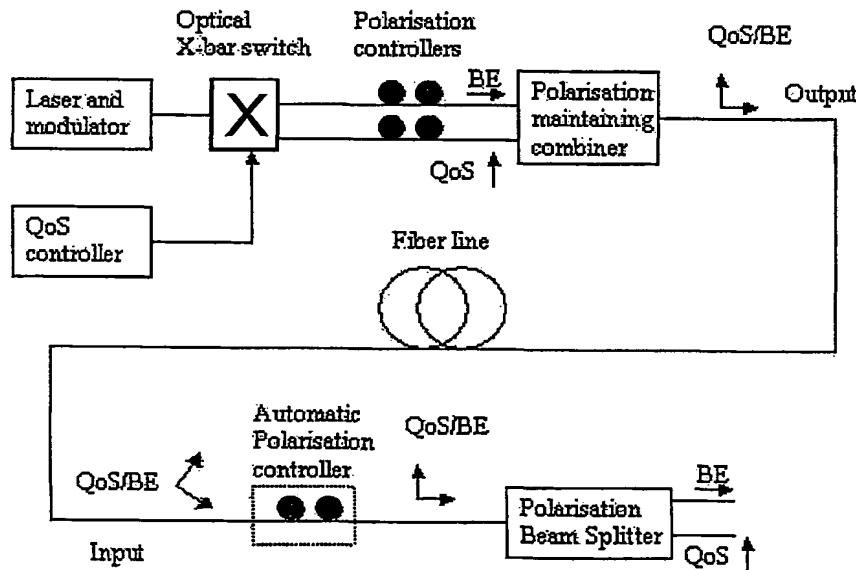
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(54) Title: USE OF POLARIZATION FOR DIFFERENTIATION OF INFORMATION



(57) Abstract: The present invention discloses a system for signalling within optical or combined optical/electronic networks wherein a first transmission node executes polarization multiplexing on transmitted traffic, and at one or more intermediate nodes one or more of the following processes are carried out on the sent traffic: demultiplexing by polarization and/or polarization and/or SOP-alignment. Further a method for packet handling within optical packet switched networks where, at a first transmission node carries out polarization demultiplexing of transmitted traffic, and at one or a number of intermediate nodes carries out one or more of the following processes on the transmitted traffic; demultiplexing by polarization, and/or polarization and/or SOP-alignment. Said separation into states of polarization is used in separation of QoS-classes.

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